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concerning me in the Weather Bureau files on this matter, I must ask to register herewith, in the same files, my indignant denial of any friendly feeling toward or sympathy for the imperial German government and my abhorrence of its official acts. I also repudiate indignantly the suggestion that I have, or could have, anything in common with what is now currently known as "Germanism."

It should not be necessary, but I once again do protest my sincere, genuine and undivided loyalty to the United States and to its government, its ideals, and particularly its published objects in this war. The most searching inquiry of my own acts and feelings fails to reveal to me any deficiency in this respect. It is well known to you that I have subscribed to the extent of my ability to the second and third liberty loans, to the Red Cross and its work, and to other activities.

You are, yourself, convinced of the truth of my statements, and, as you do not wish to see an unjust disgrace laid upon the name I bear, I believe you will aid my efforts to secure the common justice of an opportunity to learn from the Secretary of Agriculture the charges collected against me and to answer them fully in his presence.

#### GROVE KARL GILBERT

IN the *Journal of Geology* Professor Thomas C. Chamberlin pays the following editorial tribute to the late Dr. Gilbert:

The passing of Dr. Gilbert after almost seventy-five years of activity deprives geological science of one of its ablest and most honored representatives. It is permitted to few men to leave an equally enviable record. To an unusual degree his work was distinguished by keenness of observation, by depth of penetration, by soundness in induction, and by clarity of exposition. It is doubtful whether the products of any other geologist of our day will escape revision at the hands of future research to a degree equal to the writings of Grove Karl Gilbert. And yet this is not assignable to limitation of field, or to simplicity of phenomena, or to restriction in treatment. The range of his inquiries was wide, his special subjects often embraced intricate phenomena, while his method was acutely analytical and his treatment tended always to bring into declared form the basal principles that underlay the phenomena in hand.

In the literature of our science the laccolith will doubtless always be associated with the name of Gilbert. In its distinctness as a type, in its uniqueness of character, and in the definite place it was

given at once by common consent, one may almost fancy a figurative resemblance between the laccolith and its discoverer and expositor. Gilbert's monographs on the Henry Mountains and on Lake Bonneville will long stand as unexcelled models of monographic treatment. His contributions to physiographic evolution, particularly his analysis of the processes that end in base-leveling, link his name with that of Powell, and give to these two close friends a unique place as joint leaders in interpreting morphologic processes. Glacial and hydraulic phenomena were also fields in which Gilbert's powers as an investigator and expositor were signally displayed.

In accuracy of delineation, in clearness of statement, and in grace of diction Gilbert's contributions are certain long to stand as models of the first order. His personality was of the noblest type; he was a charming companion in the field; he was a trusted counselor in the study. The high place he has held in the esteem of coworkers is quite certain to merge into an even higher permanent place to be accorded him by the mature judgment of the future.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE annual convocation meeting of the American Federation of Biological Societies will be held this year in Baltimore. The date of the meeting is from December 30 to January 1 inclusive. The federation includes the following national societies: The American Physiological Society, the American Society of Biological Chemists, The American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, and the American Society for Experimental Pathology.

DR. J. M. T. FINNEY and Dr. William S. Thayer, chief consultants of the Medical Service of the American Expeditionary Forces, have received promotions advancing their rank from major to colonel. The following named officers have been promoted from major to lieutenant-colonel: Thomas R. Boggs, James T. Case, George W. Crile, Harvey Cushing, Joel W. Goldthwait, James F. McKernon, Charles H. Peck, Thomas A. Salmon, Hugh H. Young, N. Allison and E. L. Keyes.

CAPTAIN JOSEPH LEIDY, who has been instructor in gas defense and divisional gas officer of the 30th Division, Camp Sevier,

S. C., has been assigned to the Brady Laboratory, Yale University Medical School, New Haven, Conn., in connection with the Gas Defense Service of the Medical Officers' Training School.

DR. TREAT B. JOHNSON, professor of organic chemistry in the Sheffield Scientific School of Yale University, is cooperating in research with the chemical section of the War Department, and is acting as director of a field laboratory which has been established in Yale University for gas experimentation work. Associated with him in this work are: Dr. Arthur J. Hill, Dr. Blair Saxton and Dr. Sidney E. Hadley, of the Department of Chemistry, Yale University. Dr. Norman A. Shepard, of the department of chemistry, at Yale University, is working in conjunction with Professor Johnson during the summer months, and is carrying on experimental work dealing with the manufacture of explosives for the government.

At the request of the President, the Secretary of Agriculture has designated as members of the National Research Council Henry S. Graves, forester and chief of Forest Service; Karl F. Kellerman, associate chief, Bureau of Plant Industry, and Raphael Zon, chief Forest Investigations.

DR. RAYMOND F. BACON, of the Mellon Institute of Pittsburgh, now lieutenant-colonel, chief of the Technical Division on General Pershing's staff in France, while on a short visit to this country, was given an honorary doctor of science degree by the University of Pittsburgh.

At the recent commencement of Yale University, Professor Emeritus Theodore S. Woolsey, of the Law School, in introducing Professor E. S. Morse for the honorary degree spoke as follows:

Edward Sylvester Morse—Born in Portland eighty years ago, a student with Agassiz, in the chair of zoology at Bowdoin, the pursuit of Brachiopods led Professor Morse to Japan. Three years in the Orient changed the current of his life. As collector, man of taste and man of letters, he has interpreted Japanese ceramics and Japanese char-

acter with loving fidelity. As head of the Peabody Museum in Salem since 1881, he has built up a wonderful institution. As zoologist and ethnologist he has won an enviable name. A double life is his, the happy union of science and of art.

THE Angrand Foundation of France has awarded a prize of five thousand francs to Dr. Herbert J. Spinden, assistant curator in anthropology at the American Museum, in recognition of his memoir on *Maya Art*, published by the Peabody Museum of Harvard University. This prize is awarded once in five years for original investigations in the anthropology of North and South America. Dr. Spinden is engaged at present on reconnaissance work in South America.

DR. HENRY FAIRFIELD OSBORN, president of the American Museum of Natural History, has been elected an honorary member of the Royal Irish Academy.

DR. E. R. WEIDLEIN, of the Mellon Institute, has been appointed by President Nichols to represent the American Chemical Society on the Committee on the Supervision of Chemical Engineering Catalogue and as a member of the Perkin Medal Committee and the Committee on Cooperation between Industries and Universities in place of Colonel R. F. Bacon, who is now in foreign military service.

CHARLES T. KIRK has resigned the positions of professor of geology in the university and the state geologist of New Mexico, to begin consulting practise in geology with offices in Tulsa and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

At a recent meeting of the Columbus Section of the American Chemical Society, Dr. W. D. Bancroft made addresses on "Gas warfare," and on "Contact catalysis."

A PORTRAIT bust of the late F. Massei, professor of otorhinolaryngology at the University of Naples, was recently installed in the hospital where most of his work has been done.

THE REV. GEORGE M. SEARLE, superior general of the Paulist Fathers from 1904 to 1909, and previously professor of mathematics and director of the astronomical observatory of

the Catholic University, died on July 8, at the age of seventy-nine years. Dr. Searle graduated from Harvard College in 1857 and held positions in the Dudley, Naval and Harvard observatories.

PROFESSOR STEPHEN FARNHAM PECKHAM, known for his work on the chemistry of bitumens, died on July 11, in his eightieth year. Professor Peckham was a graduate of Brown University in the class of 1861, and was professor of chemistry in the University of Minnesota from 1873 to 1880. Subsequently, he was engaged in the work of the U. S. Census, and was in the department of finance of New York City until his retirement in 1911.

LIEUTENANT VERNON KING, formerly scientific assistant in cereal and forage-crop insect investigations, Bureau of Entomology, United States Department of Agriculture, has died from wounds received when the British airplane in which he was serving as a flying observer was shot down. Lieutenant King was attached to the staff of the Wellington, Kans., field laboratory and was in charge of the Charleston, Mo., station prior to November 5, 1914, when he resigned to enter the British army.

#### EDUCATIONAL NOTES AND NEWS

MOUNT UNION COLLEGE, Alliance, Ohio, has received \$512,000 for endowment and equipment to increase its educational work. Successful completion of this fund was made possible by the gift of \$50,000 by the friends of the late Captain Milton J. Lichty, M.D., of Cleveland. The professorship of biology will be named in his memory.

THE *Journal* of the American Medical Association states that the national government has modified the statutes of the University of Cordoba in accord with the general demand on the part of professors, students and graduates, giving them a more democratic control. The Academia will retain only its scientific functions, while the direction of the different de-

partments of the university will be in the hands of a managing board for each. The members of these *consejos* are to be elected for a term of three years at a general assembly of all the professors.

BECAUSE of almost continuous absence of Dr. Richard P. Strong since the outbreak of the war, the department of tropical medicine of the Harvard Medical School, has been placed in charge of Dr. Andrew W. Sellards, whose title as associate is now made that of assistant professor.

PROFESSOR C. A. SISAM, of the University of Illinois, has accepted the headship of the department of mathematics in Colorado College. He has been connected with the University of Illinois since 1906.

DR. GEORGE R. BANCROFT has resigned the professorship of chemistry and physics in Transylvania College, Lexington, Ky., to accept a position at the University of Kentucky as assistant professor of organic and physical chemistry.

DR. CHARLES T. BRUES has been promoted to be assistant professor of economic entomology in Harvard University.

#### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

##### A MUSICAL, CRICKET-LIKE CHIRPING OF A GRASSHOPPER

IN August, 1917, I made frequent trips to a certain swamp near Spring Hill, Vinson Station, Va., to study the stridulating habits of a colony of locusts, *Neoconocephalus Exiliscanorus* (Davis), which have been located here for several years. The usual notes of the cone-headed grasshoppers (*Neoconocephalus*) are quite devoid of any musical tone such as is characteristic of the chirpings and trillings of the crickets. In truth, the sounds produced by these insects are usually harsh, lisping or rasping noises which may be intermittent or prolonged, depending upon the species. The stridulations of the cone-headed grasshopper (*N. Exiliscanorus*) are of the intermittent type, and are brief, insistent phrases—zeet—zeet—zeet—zeet—zeet, delivered very regularly